

72-P

MOTION

In the City of Los Angeles, tens of thousands of people live in encampments on our streets. It is a public health crisis that is ongoing, continuing, and worsening. That crisis is made exponentially worse by the spread of COVID-19, a deadly virus that has prompted health officials to advise people to stay indoors, avoid contact with other people, and wash their hands frequently. That is advice that most unhoused people cannot physically follow. When tens of thousands of people cannot comply with public health directives in the face of a highly communicable disease, that threatens the health and safety of everyone in Los Angeles. Moreover, some emergency measures to slow the spread of the coronavirus have made it more difficult for unhoused people to follow basic hygienic advice, such as the closure of libraries, which has drastically reduced the availability of public restrooms, and the closure of gyms, which has eliminated the access many unhoused people have to showers.

The ideal solution is provide housing and shelter and allow people to move out encampments and come indoors. State and county officials are moving to expand and expedite such efforts during this state of emergency, but in the meantime, people remain on our streets, in tents and underneath tarps. Multiple, urgent efforts must be undertaken to the public health issues from and in encampments.

In the City of Los Angeles, through the coordinated efforts of our Unified Homelessness Response Center (UHRC) and our Bureau of Sanitation (LASAN), the City operates CARE and CARE+ teams. These teams have a dual function - to provide sanitation services and to enforce city codes about keeping sidewalks clean and passable. Supporters of the programs characterize them as helpful "clean-ups," necessary to protect public health through the removal of trash and hazardous materials, and the cleaning of sidewalks. Critics decry them as punitive "sweeps," which force people to take down and move tents, displace people and push them further from services, cause stress and trauma, and frequently result in the seizure and loss of vital personal possessions, including medications.

Over the past two years, the City of Los Angeles has begun to provide mobile bathrooms, mobile showers and trash cans at some encampments. In the past week, the City of Los Angeles has begun installing portable hand-washing stations at many other encampments. Yet most encampments lack any hygiene services, and many that do have services only have them part-time. Generally, unhoused residents still lack regular access to basic hygiene services.



MAR 17 2020

(SEE COUNCIL FILE NO. 20-0147-S21)

Los Angeles' uneven provision of hygiene services and largely unsuccessful efforts to address the issue of encampments has been guided by a number of factors: fiscal constraints, complaints and community feedback, and political considerations. Los Angeles must urgently re-evaluate its current practices and protocols regarding homeless encampments. *It is imperative that we answer this public health crisis with a public health response, as directed by public health professionals.*

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City of Los Angeles formally request that the California Department of Public Health and the Los Angeles Department of Public Health provide the City of Los Angeles with guidance and suggested protocols to protect the public health of people living in encampments, people living near encampments, and government and social service workers visiting or serving encampments.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council urge Governor Gavin Newsom to use his full emergency executive powers to use hotel and motel rooms to *immediately* provide shelter for unhoused Angelenos.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst to work with the Department of General Services, the Department of Recreation & Parks, the various bureaus and agencies within the Board of Works, and other agencies as appropriate, to produce of list of vacant or under-used city properties that can be used for emergency housing, and vacant or under-used parking lots and other spaces that could be established as "Emergency Safe Camping Zones," where unhoused residents could camp at a minimum of six feet apart, and be provided with hygiene services.


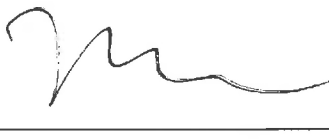
I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council take the following steps to make it easier for unhoused individuals living in encampments to comply with public health advice and directives regarding hygiene and social distancing:

- Instruct LASAN and other relevant agencies to suspend enforcement of the provision of 56.11 that require tents to come down during daytime hours, provided that the location of the tent does not impede ADA access, or is not within 10 feet of an operable driveway. Enforcement of that provision effectively prohibits people from self-quarantining and maintaining social distance.
- Instruct LASAN and other relevant agencies to suspend seizure and confiscation of materials in excess of 60 gallons unless those materials meet the definition of hazardous materials.

- Instruct LASAN, Department of General Services, and other relevant agencies to provide for the installation and servicing of the following at all major encampments: round-the-clock port-a-potties; dumpsters and vermin-proof trash cans; weekly shower service; hand-washing stations with soap and water.
- Instruct the Department of General Services, the Department of Recreation & Parks, the Library Department, and other agencies as appropriate to immediately accommodate 24-hour access to restrooms, with attendants as appropriate, at parks, libraries and other government buildings.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council direct the City Administrative Officer to identify city, county, state or federal emergency and public health funds, or recommend interdepartmental transfers, sufficient to provide for the costs associated with the above items.

PRESENTED BY:





MIKE BONIN

Councilmember, 11th District

MARQUEECE HARRIS-DAWSON

Councilmember, 8th District



GIL CEDILLO

Councilmember, 1st District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

MOTION

72-P-A

I MOVE that Motion #72P (Bonin/Harris-Dawson/Cedillo), relative to directing various departments and agencies to take actions in response to the Coronavirus pandemic, be AMENDED as follows, with all other actions remaining unchanged:

INSTRUCT LASAN and other relevant agencies to suspend enforcement, **during the emergency declaration**, of the provision of 56.11 that requires tents to come down during daytime hours, provided that the location of the tent does not impede ADA access, or is not within 10 feet of an operable driveway. Enforcement of that provision effectively prohibits people from self-quarantining and maintaining social distance.

~~INSTRUCT LASAN and other relevant agencies to suspend seizure and confiscation in excess of 60 gallons unless those materials meet the definition of hazardous materials.~~

INSTRUCT LASAN, Department of General Services and other relevant agencies to **report on the feasibility and costs associated with providing** for the installation and services of the following at all major encampments: round-the-clock port-a-potties, dumpsters and vermin-proof trash cans; weekly shower service; hand-washing stations with soap and water

INSTRUCT the Department of General Services, the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Library Department and other agencies as appropriate to ~~immediately accommodate~~ **report on the feasibility and costs associated with providing** 24-hour access to restrooms, with attendants as appropriate, at parks libraries and other government buildings.

PRESENTED BY:



JOE BUSCAINO

Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY:



OFFICIAL
RECORD


MAR 17 2020

AMENDING MOTION

I HEREBY MOVE that Council AMEND the Motion 72P-A (Buscaino – Price) to read as follows:

INSTRUCT LASAN and other relevant agencies to suspend enforcement, **during the emergency declaration**, of the provision of 56.11 that requires tents to come down during daytime hours, provided that the location of the tent does not impede ADA access, or is not within 10 feet of an operable driveway. Enforcement of that provision effectively prohibits people from self-quarantining and maintaining social distance. **At the end of the emergency declaration, seek the advice of (LA County) Public Health and provide recommendations as to whether to continue or revise the ordinance.**

~~INSTRUCT LASAN and other relevant agencies to suspend seizure and confiscation in excess of 60 gallons unless those materials meet the definition of hazardous materials.~~

INSTRUCT LASAN, Department of General Services and other relevant agencies **to do as much as possible within the next week** to provide for the installation and services of the following at all major encampments: round-the-clock port-a-potties, dumpsters and vermin-proof trash cans; weekly shower service; hand-washing stations with soap and water, and to **report back in seven days on the feasibility and costs.**

INSTRUCT the Department of General Services, the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Library Department and other agencies as appropriate to **do as much as possible within the next week to accommodate** 24-hour access to restrooms, with attendants as appropriate, at parks, libraries and other government buildings, and to **report back in seven days on the feasibility and costs.**

PRESENTED BY _____

JOE BUSCAINO
Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY _____

NURY MARTINEZ
Councilmember, 6th District

March 17, 2020

CF 20-0147